

**New York University**  
**Round Robin Report for ALA Big Heads**  
**June 2005**  
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*ILS.* We are in the middle of our relaxed (but not relaxing) timetable for migrating to VTLS's Virtua. This summer we will be testing a release of Virtua that includes several functional requirements included in our negotiations, and in the fall will review a second-tier of requests to come out in another release before we go live June 2006.

*Recruitment.* Emily McElroy joined us as Head of Acquisitions in March. We will be recruiting for a special formats cataloger this summer.

*Offsite Storage.* Until recently we have relied on low-use circulation reports to identify candidates for offsite storage. This Spring we have experimented with automatically sending all new Casalini, Harassowitz, and Puvill approval titles offsite. We are much closer to identifying a permanent facility for our offsite collections...but this is the fourth year of our search.

*Electronic Resources Management.* We have begun loading data into our III ERM and expect it to be functional late this Fall. Within tech services, we have gone through another round of reviewing workflow to identify redundant effort and holes. Over the past two years we have moved most serials cataloging and record maintenance to the serials receiving unit, but maintenance of local subject headings to support a separate on-the-fly topical list of e-resources has added another layer of complexity to record maintenance.

*Backlogs.* While we are successfully using adjunct catalogers to attack various special collections backlogs, our frontlog of recent monographic receipts has grown unwieldy because problems with the RLIN database migration makes it impossible for us to use the Marcadia searching service. We have hired extra student staff this summer to manually search the frontlog.

*Record loading.* We continue to be grateful for vendor records but frustrated with their quality and the amount of clean-up work they require. Seems like a lot of duplication of effort is going on, but when we talk to vendors, some of them say that no one else has complained about the quality. We are wondering if many of you are accepting the records as is or doing local clean-up without bothering to work with the vendor?

*Projects:*

--We were successful in securing funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to expand our project to digitize collections of videotaped performance art from Latin America

--Work continues on developing the grant-funded Archivist's Toolkit